

OREGON CROP WEATHER



Oregon
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

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Weather: Warm days and cool nights were the weather conditions across most of the State last week. Low temperatures were mostly in the thirties and forties; however, fourteen weather stations reported lows in the twenties. The lowest temperature was reported in Burns at 20 degrees Fahrenheit. High temperatures were mainly in the seventies and eighties. Only four weather stations reported temperatures above normal, Detroit Lake, The Dalles, Joseph, and Prairie City. Precipitation was minimal across the State; however, most precipitation was in South Central Oregon where mostly all weather stations with above normal precipitation were located.

Field Crops: Low soil moisture levels continued to prevent many producers from planting fall crops, especially in north central and northeast Oregon. In many areas, winter wheat seeding is on hold until it rains. Grass seed producers in Polk County were liming and fertilizing in anticipation of rain next week. Red Clover harvest continued in Washington County. Across the State, other activities included fall field preparations, harvesting some late hay crops, and moving hay in from the fields.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Fall pastures and rangeland were very dry in most areas across the State. Many pastures have very little forage and supplemental feeding was common. Frost had occurred in most of the higher elevation rangeland further slowing pasture growth. Fall livestock roundups were starting in many areas with seasonal movement of cattle.

Producers were concerned with a shortage of late-season pastures and a lack of livestock water. Livestock continued to be reported in good condition throughout the State.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Nurseries were irrigating and gearing up for the fall shipping season. Fall bedding plants are still available. With the dry weather, there were still lots of irrigation.

Vegetables: Garlic being planted in Benton, Linn, and Lane counties. Sweet corn still plentiful, and fall vegetables becoming available for the market in Clackamas County. There is still a good supply of fresh corn, green peppers, tomatoes, squash, and cucumbers at farmers markets and roadside stands in Jackson County. Some earlier maturing types of winter squash are being harvested in Josephine County. Sweet corn going to the processor, squash coloring up, and plenty of zucchini in Washington County.

Fruits and Nuts: Evergreen blackberry harvest in Clackamas County is complete. Wine grape growers are happy with the dry weather. Apples and pears are about 40 percent harvested and vineyards at about 5 percent harvested in Douglas County. The bulk of the harvest for these fruits is expected within the next two or three weeks. Harvest of apples and pears continued in Jackson County. Early wine grapes are being picked as well. The Willamette Valley continued to see a small apple and prune crop this year. Hazelnuts are falling and harvest is underway throughout the Willamette Valley. Pear and apple harvest continued throughout the Hood River Valley. Lower valley growers began post-harvest sulfur sprays and orchard cleanup. Fruit harvest of pears and apples continued in Wasco County.

Soil Moisture-Week Ending 09/25/05

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	27	57	16	0
Subsoil	23	61	16	0

Crop Progress-Week Ending 09/25/05

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5 year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter wheat planted	12	7	2	11
Winter wheat emerged	2	-	-	1
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.6	7.0	6.7	-

Crop Condition-Week Ending 09/25/05

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Range and pasture	12	25	37	26	0

WESTERN OREGON

BENTON/LINN/LANE: Some new plantings emerged. Fields being treated for voles. Some of the fall apple crop is light. Hazelnuts dropping slowly; crop to be determined. Walnuts look OK so far. A few winter pears are here and there. Shallots being harvested. Garlic being planted. Greenhouse and nursery crops slowing down. Vole population high; control methods being distributed.

CLACKAMAS: Warm days and cool nights very near freezing. Still very dry. Some operators are waiting for a rain to prepare seedbeds while, others are proceeding through the dry soil. Evergreen blackberries are done. Others being prepared for winter. Dry weather is making the wine grape growers happy. Fall vegetables becoming available for the market. Sweet corn still plentiful. Nurseries are irrigating and preparing for the fall shipping season. Livestock are mostly in good condition. Lots of hay being fed; 2004 carryover will soon be gone. Supplemental feeding is needed in most cases. Most dryland pastures are getting pretty brown.

COOS/CURRY: Cooler in the mornings with foggy areas particularly along the coast and along the rivers, more fall like conditions. Some areas were much cooler than normal, although overall temperatures were less than 1 degree below normal. Warm and breezy in the afternoons.

DOUGLAS: Apples and pears about forty percent harvested, should wrap up both in the next three weeks. Vineyards about five percent harvested, should have the bulk harvested during the next few weeks. Nursery digging deciduous and coniferous trees. Balling and getting ready for fall planting.

JACKSON: Field preparation for fall planting is well underway. We still need more moisture before planting conditions are good. Still some hay being made, both grass and alfalfa. Most corn silage has been cut. Apple and pear harvest continued with several weeks picking left to do. Some early wine grapes being picked. Still a good supply of fresh corn, green peppers, tomatoes, squash and cucumbers at farmers markets and roadside stands. Some pumpkins being harvested. Greenhouses busy with fall decorative plant starts. Nurseries starting to get ready for fall and fall plants ready for sale. Still lots of watering of plants, trees and

shrubs. Cattle will soon be brought down from the higher ranges. Most high country has already had frosts so plant growth has slowed down or stopped. Valley pastures are okay if irrigated. Some showers again Friday night, which was a help but still more is needed. Days were cooler this week, mostly in the 70's. Nights were in the low 40's. Not too bad of a week, but some hay in the fields were dampened. It should dry out during this week and be put away.

JOSEPHINE: Beautiful fall weather, cool nights with mild days. Truck gardens are pushing lots of melons, tomatoes, and corn. Some of the earlier maturing types of winter squash are being harvested. Leaves are starting to fly. First frost of the season in some sheltered areas on Sunday.

MARION: Fall planting preparations continue. The week was dry and cool. There were 7 days suitable for field work. Soil moisture continues to be short.

POLK: Temperatures have been in the high 70's and dry. Up to this point, September 2005 has been one of the driest on record. Grass seed growers are liming and fertilizing in anticipation of rain in the next week. Hazelnut prices are some of the highest this year. Pastures are dry and have little or no forage value.

WASHINGTON: Alfalfa hay baling ongoing. Red Clover combining continues. Field corn harvest started for ensilage. Fall field preparation continues. Spraying invasive weeds. Filberts falling. Walnuts look like a light crop. Berries finished. Apple crop is light to non-existent. No prunes. Sweet corn going to processor. Squash coloring up. Zucchini abundant. Percent of fall sales helping hurricane victims. Supplemental feeding and hauling water for livestock.

YAMHILL: Hazelnut harvest has begun for those who are going to pick twice. Lots of ground is ready for seed if we could just get some rain. The crop is estimated to be 28,000 tons as an industry, which would be about a one ton per acre average. The field price is the highest in history.

EASTERN OREGON

BAKER: Potato harvest is well underway. Fall temperatures have been dipping into the mid-20's in the night. Lack of late season pasture is a huge concern for Baker livestock producers this fall. Demand for hay continues to increase with the lack of moisture.

CROOK: Chickpea harvest has been underway for a few weeks. Too early to tell for yields, but appears that the Ascochyta blight affected chickpea yields and will not be as high as last year. Last cutting of alfalfa and grass is underway and will continue for a couple of more weeks. Wheat yields were all over the board. Winter wheat and to a certain extent the soft white spring did fair to good. Hard red spring wheat had terrible yields and quality in general. Protein may have been good, because of shriveled seed, but will have poor test weight. A couple of soybeans in Crook County may not make it, with cool weather and frosts this weekend. Friday was a day of rain and showers across the central Oregon area. North Unit Irrigation, in Jefferson County, is supposed to be cutting irrigation water off on the 7th of October, about 10-14 days earlier than normal. Some of the irrigation districts in Deschutes County have been running lower than 50% of normal this last month. Light to heavy frosts occurred over the weekend in the general area.

HARNEY: Fall livestock roundup starting. Light rain on some alfalfa hay.

HOOD RIVER: Pear and apple harvest continued throughout the Hood River Valley. Lower-valley growers began post-harvest sulfur sprays and orchard cleanup.

KLAMATH: Finishing grain harvest. One percent of potatoes have been harvested. Morning frost has slowed pasture growth. Seasonal movement of yearlings continues.

LAKE: Rain and snow received last Friday. The weather has turned cold, as the leaves are also starting to turn colors. Some freezing throughout the week.

MALHEUR: Fall field work and crop harvesting is keeping everyone busy and the dust rolling. Ideal weather. Dry with high temperatures about 70 - 75 and lows about 45 - 50 degrees. Normal for this time of year. Livestock condition mostly good to excellent. Range condition drying up.

MORROW: September has been dry so far. Winter wheat planting on hold. Great haying weather. Some digging of garlic. A little early for potatoes, still a little die down needed. Still a little early for corn. Cattlemen are pondering bringing cattle from higher elevation and hauling water because there is no other available, high or low.

SHERMAN: Fall pastures are pretty lean hoping for fall green up. Summer fallow is very dry. Only the very south end farmers, who got an unusual June rain of 3 to 4 inches, are planting at this time. Some of that planting is up. Most of the summer fallow planting is on hold until it rains or will be dusted in.

UMATILLA: Conditions remain very dry. Very limited amounts of winter wheat seeding taking place as growers wait for rain. Potato harvest is fifty percent done with normal yields. Onion harvest about done.

UNION: Extremely dry conditions continue. Hard frost Friday night/Saturday morning.

WALLOWA: Rain or snow is forecasted for next week. Please rain!

WASCO: Warm fall weather during day times and cool nights prevailed through the week. Winter wheat planting is slow getting started due to dry top soils; rain is needed. Alfalfa hay season has come to a close in the Dufur and Tygh valley areas. The only activity noted was retrieving the last hay bales out of the fields. Fruit harvest continued on pears and apples. Livestock are starting to be moved to fresher pastures, including grain stubble fields.

Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: September 25, 2005 (as of 11:00 am)

Station	Air temperature ¹				Growing ² Degree days		Last week precip. ³			Season cum. precipitation ⁴				
	Low	High	Avg.	DFN	Total	DFN	Total Inches	DFN	Days	Total Inches	DFN	Pct. Normal	Days	
COASTAL AREAS														
Astoria/Clatsop	36	67	53	-5	24	-29	-	-0.77	-	0.38	-1.92	17	6	
Bandon ⁵	43	65	54	-4	29	-20	-	-0.43	-	0.43	-0.91	32	3	
Crescent City	46	69	55	-4	34	-22	0.03	-0.43	3	0.34	-1.02	25	7	
Florence	31	71	51	-9	12	-52	-	-0.66	-	1.54	-0.40	79	5	
Tillamook	31	68	50	-8	9	-39	0.01	-0.98	1	1.27	-1.72	42	6	
WILLAMETTE VALLEY														
Aurora ⁵	36	76	57	-4	50	-20	-	-0.47	-	0.10	-1.36	7	2	
Corvallis	34	75	57	-5	47	-24	-	-0.39	-	0.38	-0.83	31	5	
Detroit Lake ⁵	36	77	57	+3	51	+12	-	-0.58	-	1.55	-0.26	86	3	
Eugene	35	78	57	-5	50	-29	0.01	-0.41	1	0.27	-1.10	20	5	
Hillsboro	34	76	55	-5	40	-24	-	-0.36	-	0.05	-1.16	4	2	
McMinnville	36	78	57	-4	53	-18	-	-0.42	-	0.40	-0.90	31	3	
Portland	41	75	59	-4	64	-18	-	-0.42	-	0.03	-1.42	2	3	
Salem	37	76	57	-4	48	-21	-	-0.42	-	1.10	-0.15	88	5	
SW VALLEYS														
Grants Pass	37	85	60	-4	73	-19	0.12	-0.12	1	0.50	-0.20	71	3	
Medford	38	87	62	-3	83	-12	0.12	-0.09	1	0.44	-0.27	62	4	
Roseburg	38	81	59	-4	66	-19	0.02	-0.26	1	0.28	-0.66	30	3	
NORTH CENTRAL														
Condon	30	79	54	-3	30	-13	-	-0.14	-	-	-0.63	-	-	
Echo ⁵	35	82	57	-4	54	-22	0.01	-0.06	1	0.02	-0.37	5	2	
Heppner	36	78	56	-3	47	-16	-	-0.21	-	-	-0.67	-	-	
Hermiston	34	83	57	-4	51	-25	-	-0.07	-	-	-0.39	-	-	
John Day	33	82	56	-2	46	-7	-	-0.20	-	0.02	-0.72	3	2	
Madras ⁵	31	79	54	-3	31	-22	0.01	-0.12	1	0.01	-0.48	2	1	
Moro	35	74	56	-2	42	-11	-	-0.13	-	0.05	-0.44	10	1	
Parkdale ⁵	31	76	53	-6	25	-34	-	-0.28	-	0.02	-0.92	2	1	
Pendleton	38	79	57	-5	48	-29	-	-0.14	-	0.09	-0.40	18	1	
The Dalles	41	81	62	+5	83	+26	-	-0.14	-	-	-0.50	-	-	
SOUTH CENTRAL														
Agency Lake ⁵	24	81	51	-3	21	-11	0.28	0.14	2	0.35	-0.15	70	6	
Bend	30	81	52	-3	22	-15	0.10	0.03	1	0.13	-0.29	31	2	
Burns	20	84	51	-2	23	-9	0.14	0.01	1	0.17	-0.32	35	2	
Christmas Valley ⁵	21	82	49	-9	16	-39	0.09	-0.05	2	0.33	-0.15	69	8	
Klamath Falls	25	82	52	-6	28	-27	0.21	0.07	1	0.24	-0.21	53	2	
Klamath Falls ⁵	24	81	52	-6	31	-24	0.20	0.06	2	0.20	-0.25	44	2	
Lakeview	23	82	50	-7	27	-19	0.16	0.02	1	0.16	-0.34	32	1	
Lorella ⁵	21	83	50	-8	22	-33	0.22	0.08	3	0.24	-0.21	53	5	
Redmond	21	82	52	-4	19	-24	0.01	-0.06	1	0.53	0.17	147	4	
Worden ⁵	21	83	50	-8	23	-32	0.19	0.05	1	0.35	-0.10	78	3	
NORTHEAST														
Baker City	22	79	51	-5	18	-23	0.01	-0.13	1	0.01	-0.63	2	1	
Joseph	30	78	52	+3	26	+2	0.24	-0.11	2	0.35	-0.76	32	4	
La Grande	25	81	55	-3	39	-17	-	-0.21	-	-	-0.78	-	-	
Prairie City ⁵	26	80	51	+3	16	-3	0.24	0.03	2	0.25	-0.67	27	3	
Union	28	81	54	-2	30	-15	-	-0.21	-	0.03	-0.86	3	2	
SOUTHEAST														
Ontario	33	84	58	-2	60	-14	0.06	-0.06	1	0.11	-0.37	23	3	
Rome	26	85	55	-3	50	-6	0.20	0.06	2	0.25	-0.25	50	4	

¹ Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit. ² Growing degree days base-50 degrees Fahrenheit. ³ Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches. ⁴ Season cumulative precipitation starts September 1, 2005. ⁵ Agri-Met weather stations.

DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-1990 normals period).
Precipitation days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

Summary based on NWS data.
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